

### Civil Suit Filed For Damages From Vehicle Accident

William I. Honeyball, Grants Pass, has filed suit in circuit court here for more than \$6,000 against three drivers and the owner of a freight truck involved in a fatal accident 18 months ago.

One of the four defendants is Mrs. Betty Lee Hillis, 43, Rogue River, daughter of Mrs. Adele Purrier, 61, Rogue River, who died of injuries received in the accident. Mrs. Hillis received multiple injuries in the crash.

Other defendants are Albert Leonard Forsythe, 61, of route 1, box 198, Talent; Fred Davis, 60, San Francisco, and California Trucking Service, Redwood City, Calif.

**Driver Not Named**  
The California Trucking Service tractor and semi-trailer cement hauler was driven by Cleo Bailey Peters, 47, Grants Pass, who is not named in the complaint.

Honeyball was owner of a truck, driven by Jack Asher, 25, Grants Pass, which was involved in the six vehicle smashup. Co-plaintiff is Truck Insurance Exchange.

Driver of the sixth car, which is not involved in the complaint, was Maybelle E. Henson, 58, Wolf Creek.

Honeyball charges negligence on the part of the four defendants. He seeks \$3,782.03 for damages to his truck, and \$2,339.07 special damages.

Attorney for the plaintiffs is Warren Lesseg, Medford.

### Canning Pear Association Details Being Drafted

Portland—(U.P.)—Details of a three-state Pacific Coast Canning Pear Association are being worked out for presentation this spring, an industry spokesman said here yesterday.

Oregon, Washington and California Bartlett growers would compose the association.

### Plague of Locusts In Morocco Leaves Wake of Destruction

Casablanca, Morocco—(U.P.)—A plague of locusts which descended on Morocco last November has assumed the proportions of a disaster.

In 11 weeks the hordes of evil-smelling, four inch insects have eaten their way through 300 miles of fertile country. They have brought ruin to thousands of Arab farmers.

**Science Fails**  
Modern science has failed even to diminish their countless numbers. French authorities say the only hope of ending the plague lies in a sudden, sharp cold wave or a wind which will blow the locusts out to sea.

Some of the swarms, drifting with the wind, are 20 miles long and 10 miles wide. They may

extend in depth from grass-top level to an altitude of 800 feet. The Arabs call them "the red typhoon."

The locusts can eat a cabbage in 30 seconds. They will strip an orange tree bare in 10 minutes, and destroy a 30 acre tomato patch in less than that.

**Even Bite Children**  
They are so voracious that they bite children on the lips and ears, and attack poultry and small livestock.

Eighty airplanes and 40 helicopters, many of them American from the United States Air Force base at Ben Guerir near here, hundreds of trucks and thousands of men have been mobilized to spray the plague areas with insecticides, but to no avail.

Plane throwers and bulldozers, driven over the ground covered by locusts, have failed likewise to end the pest.

The farmers, their faith in modern methods gone, beat on drums and iron kettles in hope of frightening the locusts, and light evil-smelling fires to drive them away.

They also eat the locusts, cooking them in butter or oil after stripping off their wings.

**Worst Plague Since 1897**  
It is the worst locust plague since 1897. The locusts are of the seven-year cycle—they appear each year for seven years, then disappear for seven years. This is the second year of a cycle of visitation.

The locusts come from the interior of Africa. Normally, they are stopped by the Sahara Desert and the towering Atlas Mountains. But this year, on the wind, they came across the desert and the mountains.

In one area they ate an estimated 14,000,000 pounds of oranges in less than five days. Two hundred out of each 1000 acres of crops were destroyed. The rest suffered 50 to 75 per cent damage.

Authorities say it will be five years before the Sous Valley farmers recover, and that it will be two years or more before the orange trees again bear fruit in marketable quantities.

### SOC Students Plan For 'UN' Meeting

Ashland—A group of Southern Oregon college students have been preparing for several months for the regional Model United Nations to be held in San Francisco this spring, according to Dr. Donald MacDougall, assistant professor of social science.

Chairman of this year's SOC delegation will be Jim Kenneth, Medford, who also is president of the SOC student body.

The Southern Oregon college group will represent The Netherlands at the regional session. In past years, SOC students have represented the Union of South Africa and Yugoslavia.

Only other member of the SOC delegation chosen so far is Bob Matthews, Myrtle Creek, president of the SOC International Relations club, from which membership of the delegation is drawn.

The Model UN session will be held on the campus of San Francisco State college early in April.

Americans consume about 60,000,000 pounds of mushrooms annually.

### Bad Check Passers Discussed by FBI Agent for Rotary

The difficulty of coping with those who are experts in bad check-passing was explained to members of the Medford Rotary club here Tuesday by J. A. Bernard, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Portland.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting at the Jackson hotel, Bernard, who was formerly connected with the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C., and Bureau offices in several U.S. cities, explained that the interstate transportation of stolen property act places big scale fraudulent check passing in the jurisdiction of his organization.

**Three Categories**  
There are, the speaker said, usually three categories of passers of bad checks: those who make an honest mistake, the Saturday night free-spender who tries to rectify his error later on, and those who make their living at the dubious profession. The latter are generally self-confident, keen students of psychology, and usually appear to be exactly what they represent when attempting to gain confidence of their victims.

The FBI official recited the case of George Frederick Douglas, whose check-passing activities took him to almost every state of the Union, involved more than \$1,000,000 in bank transactions and netted a profit well over \$100,000 before he was apprehended.

Courtney Townsend Taylor, another principal in a difficult check-passing case handled by the FBI, was an expert printer, and prepared all letterheads, checks and credentials used in his operations.

**Most on File**  
Most of the fraudulent checks in FBI files were passed by individuals whose fingerprints are on record in the Bureau's criminal file. Those who are suspicious to unfamiliar check passers were advised to examine and try to verify credentials, attempt to secure car licenses, and not hesitate to check with local police offices.

The speaker was introduced by Rotary program chairman Frank J. VanDyke.

### Communist Leader Declared Guilty

Chicago—(U.P.)—A federal jury today found Claude Lightfoot, executive secretary of the Communist party in Illinois, guilty of a violation of the Smith Act.

The 45-year-old Negro was the first Communist party leader tried under an untested section of the Smith Act which makes membership in an organization which teaches or advocates the violent overthrow of the government illegal, providing the person is aware of the organization's aims.

The 81 Communist party leaders previously convicted under the act were charged under another section which makes it a crime to conspire to organize such a group.

### Bills in Legislature

Salem—(U.P.)—A measure to give the state public utilities commissioner authority to regulate decreases as well as increase in rate charged by railroads, barge lines and trucks in intrastate traffic in Oregon has been introduced in the Oregon

Senate and is expected to be one of the controversial measures of the session.

Under present law the public utilities commissioner has authority only to regulate increases in intrastate rates. The bill is expected to have the backing of truck and barge operators and opposition of railroad operators.

Salem—(U.P.)—A bill introduced in the House would allow movement of farm vehicles on highways, making them subject to a "reasonable and prudent" rule regarding width, length and height.

Salem—(U.P.)—Rep. Walter Pearson (D-Portland) has introduced a bill in the House providing for an assistant to the Multnomah county board of commissioners. The officer would receive \$6,000.

### Pioneer Trucker Will Be Honored

Archie C. Pierce, president of Pierce Freight Lines, Inc., 795 South Riverside ave., will be honored Feb. 2 at a meeting of the 25-Year club at Coronado, Calif., it was announced today.

The banquet meeting will open the 1955 convention of California Trucking Association, Inc.

Pierce, who has played a leading role in development of the trucking industry in the Pacific Coast states, will be one of 50 motor carrier operators who will receive recognition. All others are Californians.

More than 1,000 delegates are expected to attend the four-day convention.

Principal speakers will be Gov. Goodwin J. Knight, of California, and Neil J. Curry, president of the American Trucking Association, Inc.

### Jackson County Third In Receipts for MOD

Jackson county ranked third, behind Multnomah and Douglas counties, in total combined receipts in the January, 1954, and August, 1954, March of Dimes, according to figures released by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Jackson county's combined total of \$44,504.96 followed Multnomah county with \$285,137.93 and Douglas county with \$46,260.91.

Per capita figure of .7606 made Jackson county fourth in the state in that department, the figures showed. Highest per capita figure in the state was chalked up by Sherman county with \$1.1543. Second place went to Gilliam county with \$1.0201 and third place went to Douglas county with .8481.

Oregon combined receipts totaled \$766,685.54, a per capita total of .5040. National totals were \$66,840,339.52, a per capita total of .4435.

### Phoenix Dance To Aid March of Dimes Fund

Phoenix—A March of Dimes dance will be held at Phoenix Community club on Friday, Jan. 28, with dancing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., it has been announced by the sponsoring Phoenix Lady Lions club.

Music will be provided without charge by Bobby Champion and his Melody Wranglers. Patty and Dianne Ryan, Medford vocalists, will appear with the band, the sponsors said.

Admission to the dance will be a contribution to the polio fund, it was stated.

### Circus Schedules Two Shows Here Thursday

Tomorrow will be circus day in Medford.

Two performances, at 4 and 8 p.m., of the Kaye Brothers circus have been scheduled for the Medford High school auditorium. The performances are being sponsored by the Medford 20-30 club.

Eighteen acts are slated for each performance. They will include aerial acts, acrobats, performing dogs and ponies, a baby elephant, and clowns.

Tickets will be available at the door.

### TOOK BOOT, TOO

Denver—(U.P.)—Police, bent on collecting parking fines, clamped an "iron boot" on a parked automobile Tuesday. Later, a soldier came along, sawed off the boot, threw it in the back of the car and drove off.

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Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 8:30 previous day.

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